

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) An illumination apparatus projecting light forward, comprising:
a light source;

forward projecting means positioned in front of said light source for receiving light from said light source to project the light forward;

a reflecting mirror enclosing said light source and said forward projecting means for directing and reflecting forward the light from said light source;

a light source-fixing member fixing said light source at a rear end thereof, enclosing said reflecting mirror, and having an opening at the front end thereof;

a transparent protective cover joined to a front end of said forward projecting means to cover said opening of said light source-fixing member,

distance varying means including a screw mechanism connecting said protective cover and said light source-fixing member that can vary a distance between said forward projecting means and said light source [while the light source is positioned fixedly relative to the reflecting mirror].

2. (Original) The illumination apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said reflecting mirror is parabolic mirror, and said light source is positioned at a focus of the parabolic mirror.

3. (Original) The illumination apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said forward projecting means is a Fresnel lens having a stepped surface arranged on a plane on opposite side of said light source,

the illumination apparatus further comprising transparent air-blocking means provided in front of said Fresnel lens to prevent said Fresnel lens from being exposed to air.

4. (Original) The illumination apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said forward projecting

means is a small-diameter reflecting mirror having an aperture smaller than that of said reflecting mirror.

5. (Cancelled).

6. (Cancelled).

7. (Original) The illumination apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said light source is an LED (Light Emitting Diode).

Please add claim 8.

8. (New) The illumination apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said screw mechanism comprises complementary threads at the front end of said light source-fixing member and on said protective cover.